

1968

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COUNTRY: Germany

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SUBJECT: Metallic Substitute for Processed Film

DATE OF INFO: [REDACTED] 25X1X6

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SOURCE: [REDACTED]

1. Casper Fischer was born in Philadelphia of German parentage. In 1904 he established his permanent residence in Seattle, Washington. He was associated with Alexander Patages in one of the first movie theatres in Seattle. Fischer later opened his own movie house.

2. About 1920 he turned his interest to inventions. He was convinced he could find a substitute for the costly, inflammable and unsafe movie film. Some time in the 1920's he established the Metal Film Corporation, which was registered as a corporation doing business within the State of Washington, with incorporation filed at Olympia, Washington. Mr. Earl Husted, attorney, in the Spreisterbach Building, Everett, Washington, handled the details of this incorporation and also aided Casper Fischer in obtaining several patents, now registered in the Patent Office, Washington, D.C., dealing with subsequent developments of his inventions intended to replace processed film with a metallic substitute.

3. During the 1930's, Casper Fischer traveled to Europe and became associated with Christian Simenitz, Austrian born chemist and photographer. While Fischer developed the metallic base, through contacts with a Mr. Baaken of the American Aluminum Company in New York City, Simenitz developed the chemical coating for their metallic substitute for processed film.

4. In 1939 Fischer told his wife that he had part of the machines for making the metallic substitute in New York City, but that Simenitz had the more important ones in Germany. In 1947, Fischer made a trip to Germany and brought back several machines. These were stored in New York City. Mr. Fischer died

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Page 2

in New York City in 1947. Mrs. Fischer paid the storage on these machines in New York City but due to lack of funds had to stop payment.

5. Christian Simenitz was living in the Russian Zone when the war in Europe ended. Late in 1948, Simenitz was informed that the Russians had listed him for work in the USSR. He fled with his wife and daughter in the middle of the night to the US Zone. Simenitz was threatened a second time by the Russians, who wanted him for work in the USSR. Simenitz has established his residence at Lohstrasse 3, Regensburg (Bayern), Regenstauf, Germany. Christa Simenitz once wrote briefly to Mrs. Fischer that the Russians wished to take her father into the USSR because he possessed great knowledge of photographic processes.

6. The following machines are involved in Fischer's inventions for a metallic substitute for processed film:

- a. Reproducing cameras.
- b. Machine to apply the emulsion on the aluminum alloy (latter to be manufactured by the American Aluminum Company).
- c. Machine to smooth out aluminum alloy base before emulsion is applied.
- d. Machine to repair (patch) aluminum alloy sheets if torn or broken.

7. Fischer claimed that his metallic substitute would be used in the following fields:

- a. Motion pictures due to safety from fire and lightness of substitute as compared to processed film.
- b. Sound recordings due to lightness and perfect sound conductivity.
- c. Storage due to safety and lightness.
- d. For X-Ray and hospital use due to safety factors.

8. It is believed that Christian Simenitz possesses the personal and professional knowledge that would make Casper Fischer's invention marketable and that possibly it would have great value in connection with US defense plans, especially in view of the atomic age.

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